PARISH RECORD

OF

SERVICES, OFFERINGS, AND WORK

FOR THE YEAR

1883–1884,

Trinity Church, Oxford,

AND

TRINITY CHAPEL, Crescentville,

PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA:
JOHN C. CLARK & SONS, PRS., 230 Dock St.
1883.

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The Parish Collect.

ALMIGHTY GOD, we humbly beseech Thee to watch over this parish in which Thou hast placed us, and to bless it in its life and work. Fill it more and more with Thy life. Shield it from all error, ignorance, pride, and prejudice. Guard it day by day from distractions from without and dissensions from within. Unite us one to another in brotherly love. Strengthen the weak; add power to the strong. Give patience to the sick and the afflicted; comfort the bereaved.

Bless to us all the means of grace. Prosper Thy servant, our Rector, in his holy work. Support and cheer him in his duties. Enlarge our means of usefulness. Make the various departments of our work effective agencies in the salvation of souls. Show us how we may be instrumental for good in our several stations. And grant that we "may continue Thine for ever, and daily increase in Thy Holy Spirit more and more, until we come unto Thine everlasting kingdom." Amen.

TO THE PARISHIONERS OF TRINITY CHURCH AND CHAPEL:

THE Advent message is once more ringing in our ears, calling upon us to review the past and to resolve to labor more earnestly in the future.

The past year has been marked by an increase of work and we devoutly trust of usefulness. For this we thank God and take courage.

The Parish Building has been completed, and was formally dedicated by the Bishop of the Diocese on April 23, 1883. It has already proved a great aid, providing as it does the much needed room for the Sunday School and other departments of work.

The Chapel continues to grow in numbers and in influence for good, notwithstanding the fluctuating character of the community in which it is placed. The statistics of both church and chapel will be found at the end of this Record. From figures, however, we can form but a poor estimate of the work accomplished upon immortal souls. Man may plant, but God alone can give the increase.

The new year opens propitiously, the fund for the new organ, which we hope to use for the first time on Easter Day, having been nearly completed. But "let us not be weary in well-doing:" let us resolve to lay foundations for more extended usefulness; to bear in

mind the pressing needs; to determine each for himself what he can do *personally* for Christ,—so preparing the way for His coming in glorious majesty to judge the world.

Longing deeply to interest all in the Master's work, I have undertaken in this small compass to set down a carefully compiled scheme of the services; a list of the collections on every Sunday in the year; and a statement of the work in which we are called to take a part, and through which we may influence others. A calendar of the principal feasts and fasts has been prepared as an aid to the memory, and a reminder of our duty not to neglect the assembling of ourselves together in God's House to worship on these days. Fully believing that all our labour will be in vain unless we seek faithfully God's blessing and support, I have added a prayer, called the Parish Collect (which will be found on page 2), which I earnestly hope will be used by every member of the parish in their private devotions, and at least once a week in family worship.

Asking your earnest co-operation in the work, and praying for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and for health and strength, if God so will, to serve Him diligently in the sacred office of the Priesthood, and to accomplish that which is here planned and proposed, I remain, my dear helpers and beloved in the Lord,

Faithfully,

Your Friend and Rector,

R. BOWDEN SHEPHERD.

Trinity Rectory,
Advent, 1883.

Parish Organization.

RECTOR,

THE REV. R. BOWDEN SHEPHERD,
Oxford Church P. O., Philadelphia.

WARDENS:

WILLIAM OVERINGTON, *Accounting Warden.*
HARVEY ROWLAND, *Rector's Warden.*

VESTRYMEN:

JOHN COOKE, HARRY INGERSOLL,
GEORGE RHAWN, RUSH ROWLAND,
THOMAS GRAHAM.

SECRETARY OF THE VESTRY,

JOHN COOKE.

ORGANIST AT THE CHURCH,

JOSEPH T. SMITH.

SEXTON AT THE CHURCH,

ANDREW HALLOWELL.

ORGANIST AT THE CHAPEL,

DANIEL JOBBINS.

SEXTON AT THE CHAPEL,

MRS. ISABELLA ALLATT.

The Christian Year.

1883–1884.

"Redeeming the time because the days are evil"

St. Andrew's Day—November 30.
First Sunday in Advent—December 2.
St. Thomas' Day—December 21.
CHRISTMAS DAY—Tuesday, December 25.
St. Stephen's Day—December 26.
St. John the Evangelist's Day—December 27.
Holy Innocents' Day—Friday, December 28.
Circumcision—Tuesday, January 1.
The Epiphany—Sunday, January 6.
Conversion of St. Paul—January 25.
Purification of the Virgin Mary—February 2.
Septuagesima Sunday—February 10.
St. Matthias' Day—Sunday, February 24.
Ash Wednesday—February 27.
Annunciation of the Virgin Mary—March 25.
The Sunday next before Easter (Palm Sunday)–Apr. 6.

Good Friday—April 11.
EASTER DAY—April 13.
St. Mark's Day—April 25.
St. Philip and St. James' Day—May 1.
ASCENSION DAY—Thursday, May 22.
WHITSUN-DAY—June 1.
TRINITY SUNDAY—June 8.
St. Barnabas' Day—June 11.
Nativity of St. John Baptist—June 24.
St. Peter's Day—Sunday, June 29.
St. James' Day—July 25.
St. Bartholomew's Day—Sunday, August 24.
St. Matthew's Day—Sunday, September 21.
St. Michael and All Angels—September 29.
St. Luke the Evangelist's Day—October 18.
St. Simon and St. Jude's Day—October 28.
All Saints' Day—November 1.
Thanksgiving Day—Most probably the last Thursday in November.

THE Church and Chapel are under one head and under one organization; yet otherwise they have been widely separated. This ought not to be. All the parishioners should, as Christian brethren, take a mutual interest in each other. We have a view of the services appointed, the objects undertaken, and the things accomplished by both, here between the leaves of the same cover. If we look over them carefully, we cannot fail to grow together in heart and soul, united spiritually as we are in the Lord's work, in the same parish, under the same Rector.

The Order of Services.

"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as the manner of some is: but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."

HEB. X: 25.

Services at Trinity Church.

SUNDAYS: 10.30 A. M. 4 P. M. on the 2d Sunday in January, March, May, July, September, and November.

WEDNESDAYS: in the Parish Building at 7.30 P. M. Short service and lecture, except during Lent and the months of June, July, August, and September. Subject of lectures, The Book of Acts.

HOLY DAYS: 9.30 A. M.

HOLY COMMUNION: The first Sunday in each month, the first and third Sundays in Advent, Christmas Day, the first and fourth Sundays in Lent, Palm Sunday, Easter Day, Ascension Day, Whitsunday, Trinity Sunday, and All Saints' Day.

HOLY BAPTISM: Whenever there is a Sunday afternoon service, and upon all holy days.

Special Services.

DURING THE ADVENT SEASON: Weekly, Fridays, 9 30 A. M.

CHRISTMAS DAY: Service, sermon, and Holy Communion 10.30 A. M. Christmas Festival for the Sunday School on Holy Innocents' Day, Dec. 28, at 2 P. M.

DURING THE LENTEN SEASON: Ash Wednesday, service and sermon, 10.30 A. M. Weekly: Wednesdays, 9.30 A. M.; Fridays, lecture, 4 P. M.

HOLY WEEK: Daily (except Good Friday), 9.30 A. M. Good Friday service and sermon, 10.30 A. M.

EASTER DAY: Short service for the Sunday School, 9.30 A. M. Service, sermon, and Holy Communion, 10.30 A. M.

EASTER MONDAY AND TUESDAY: 9 30 A. M.

ASCENSION DAY: Service, sermon, and Holy Communion, 10.30 A. M.

WHITSUN-MONDAY AND TUESDAY, 9.30 A.M.

THANKSGIVING DAY: Service and sermon, 10.30 A. M.

Services at Trinity Chapel.

SUNDAYS: 3.30 P. M. from November to April; 4 P. M. from April to November; 10.30 A. M. on the second Sunday in January, March, May, July, September, and November.

HOLY COMMUNION: At the Sunday morning services.

HOLY BAPTISM: On the first Sunday in each month.

Special Services.

FOR THE SUNDAY SCHOOL: On the first Sunday in each month, except in January and April.

DURING THE ADVENT SEASON:
Weekly. Fridays, service and lecture, 7.30 P. M.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL for the Sunday School the first Sunday after Christmas, Dec. 30.

DURING THE LENTEN SEASON: Ash Wednesday, service and sermon, 7.30 P. M. Weekly, Wednesdays, service and lecture, 7.30 P. M.

HOLY WEEK: Wednesday, service and lecture, 7.30 P. M. Good Friday, service and sermon, 7.30 P. M.

EASTER DAY: Festival for the Sunday Schools, 4 P. M. Evening prayer and sermon, 7.30 P. M.

ASCENSION DAY: Service and sermon, 7.30 P. M.

Holy Communion.

It will be noticed in the list of services that more frequent opportunities have been offered for partaking of the Holy Communion, especially during the penitential seasons of Advent and Lent. To those who have any realizing sense of what this sacrament is these opportunities will be most welcome; for the Holy Communion is not a mere token or badge of our profession, but to those drawing near with faith, it is a potent means of grace for "the strengthening and refreshing of our souls."

The Communion will be administered in private to the sick and the infirm whenever it is desired. The rubric, at the beginning of the office for the Communion to the sick, states expressly that the person desiring the Communion shall certify to the minister that *two at the least* besides himself, shall be present to communicate with him.

Holy Baptism.

The Prayer Book teaches that "there shall be for every male-child to be baptized, *when they can be had*, two godfathers and one godmother; and for every female, one godfather and two godmothers; and the parents shall be admitted as sponsors, if it be desired."

Parents or sponsors will greatly oblige the Rector if they will procure and fill out the records for Baptism, and hand them to him before the service. Printed blanks for this purpose may be had either at the church or chapel by applying to the sexton.

PRIVATE BAPTISM is only administered in cases of necessity, when the child or person is in imminent danger of death.

Confirmation.

IT is hoped, if it can be so arranged, that the Bishop of the Diocese will visit this parish early in June.

Confirmation lectures will be announced in due time.

Those thinking of Confirmation are affectionately urged not to delay speaking to the Rector upon this subject until the lectures begin. He will be glad to confer with them at any time.

When the heart is stirred and moved to a sense of its duty, it is not well to put off for an indefinite time in the distant future.

In this connection the Rector would add that he is always glad to welcome his parishioners to the Rectory, and his desire and prayer to God is that he may be helpful to them in all those matters which concern their spiritual life.

Marriages.

IT is requested that early notice of the date appointed for weddings be furnished to the Rector.

The Visitation of the Sick.

IT is hoped that cases of sickness will be made known to the Rector at once. It is often impossible for him to hear of them. Much seeming remissness on his part would thus be avoided, and much good accomplished; for if there is delay in sending for him he oftentimes finds the persons too weak to converse, or to rightly understand their spiritual condition. The office for the visitation of the sick in the Prayer Book does not only apply to the dying, but also to the *sick*, even if that sickness be not unto death.

Funerals.

IT is requested that the Rector be informed as soon as convenient of the time and place of funerals. It is well, if possible, to confer with him before fixing upon the hour, as he may have some previous appointment. It is desirable that he should be furnished with the full name, date of birth and death of the deceased. Also of the *immediate* cause of death.

New Parishioners

ARE requested to make themselves known as soon as possible to the Rector by remaining after any of the services and speaking to him.

Members of the parish are kindly requested to inform the Rector of new families belonging to the church who move into the neighborhood.

Communicants removing from other parishes are desired to bring with them a letter of transfer from their former Rector.

Those leaving the parish are requested to make the fact known to the Rector previous to their departure, so that he may furnish them with letters to the clergy of the parishes into which they are about removing.

The Offertory.

"Thine alms are come up for a memorial before God."

Acts X: 4.

"Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him."

1 Cor. XVI: 2.

TRINITY CHURCH.

At every Sunday morning service there is an Offertory devoted to the following objects:

On the first Sunday in each month, unless otherwise specified, to the poor, sick, and other worthy objects.

On the first Sunday in December—The support of the Sunday Schools.

Christmas Day—Aged and infirm clergy fund.

The first Sunday in February—Diocesan and City Missions. (This change is rendered necessary on account of the treasurers of these funds having to close their reports on May 1st and April 1st, respectively.)

Easter Day—A parochial object to be named at the beginning of Lent, so as to give a definite aim to our self-denial.

Whitsunday—The anniversary of the planting of the Christian church. Domestic and Foreign Missions.

The first Sunday in October—Episcopal and Convention fund. Assessment, $50.

Thanksgiving Day—Episcopal Hospital.

ALL OTHER SUNDAYS—Current expenses.

These last are very necessary, as the pew rents are not sufficient for the support of the parish.

TRINITY CHAPEL.

At every Sunday service there is an Offertory. When not appointed for any other object, it will be devoted to THE CURRENT EXPENSES. The Chapel is dependant upon these collections for its support, with the exception of the Rector's services.

On all Sundays when the Sunday School is present in a body at the service, the Offertory will be devoted to the object to which the Sunday School is contributing.

Gifts, Donations, and Memorials.

THESE are always acceptable.

GIFTS of money for an object for which there is no special collection appointed can be placed upon the plate (should any one desire it), marked with the name of the object for which it is intended. Contributions so designated will be forwarded at once to their proper destination.

DONATIONS of fruits and vegetables are welcome on Thanksgiving Day, and are distributed among the sick and the poor.

Donations of old clothes, and *recent magazines* after they have been read and thrown aside, will be gladly received, and will be sent where they will do most good.

MEMORIALS are most beautiful tokens of love and affection for the departed, and are most appropriate in beautifying God's temple. The Rector should always be consulted as to what he thinks most needed.

Parish Work.

"Whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him."

Col. III : 17.

NO one can be thoroughly interested unless they take a part in the work of the parish.

It is not sufficient to say that the work is so well done by others that your help is not needed. Even if it can be carried on without your aid, still you personally cannot do without the work—work for the glory of God. You will be better and happier for undertaking something with this object in view, no matter how trifling it is. Each one has different capacities. That is just what the Church wants,—laborers in different departments.

ANY MEMBER, therefore, who is willing to work, by communicating with the Rector, will be given something to do for God, provided he or she will labor faithfully, punctually, and perseveringly.

TRINITY CHURCH.

THE Sunday School meets in the Parish Building at 9 A. M., except during the month of August.

The Women's Bible Class meets in the Parish Building on Sunday, at 3 P. M., from the middle of September to the last of June.

The Missionary Sewing Society will meet in the Parish Building every Friday, at 2 P. M., from the first Friday in January until the Friday before Holy Week.

The Sewing School meets in the Parish Building every Saturday, at 2 P. M., from the first of November until the last of April.

All wishing to aid in the Christmas and Easter Decorations will meet in the church on Monday, December 24, at 9.30 A. M., and on Easter Even, at 3 P. M.

TRINITY CHAPEL.

THE Sunday School meets in the Sunday-School room, at 2 P. M. from November to April, and at 2 30 P. M. from April to November, except during August.

The Men's Bible Class and the Women's Bible Class meet at the same time and place.

The Sewing School meets in the Sunday-School room every Saturday, at 4 P. M., from the last of April to the last of November.

The Choir meets to practice weekly on Saturdays, at 7.30 P M.

A society to decorate the Chapel on the chief festivals of the Christian year will be organized on Friday evening, December 7, after the service. All interested in this work are cordially invited to be present. Other meetings will be appointed from time to time.

Things to Think About.

A Parish Day School is much needed for the children of the neighborhood. Secular knowledge without religious and moral instruction is valueless. The Pastoral recently issued by the House of Bishops thus speaks: "Frightful statistics have lately shown * * * how utterly inefficient a mere book knowledge is to forestall vice or crime." We have a building which, with trifling expenditure, can be arranged for this use. We want, however, sufficient funds to provide for the salary of a *competent* teacher and certain necessary expenses. A small charge would be made for each child. Many parents have applied to the Rector to start such a school. What a noble work the partial endowment or maintenance of a parish school would be for several men or women to undertake! Shall we open it next September, or not?

Enlargement of the Church.

Many of the parishioners may not know that over twenty years ago an enlargement of the church was contemplated. A plan was prepared which made the present vestry room into a recess chancel, and enlarged

the transepts, thus giving *twenty-six* additional pews, and greatly beautifying the interior of the church. Subscriptions for nearly the whole amount required had been pledged, when the Civil War broke out and put an end to this worthy enterprise. The plan is in the possession of the Rector, who will be glad to show it to any one desiring to see it.

Shall we enter into the labors of our fathers and undertake the work? Those desiring to bequeath a portion of their wealth to the church could not find a more excellent object. It would be a lasting memorial, through which they being dead would yet speak.

The Church is God's House.

All should be equally welcomed, and be made to feel that God's temple is their home and resting-place from the world's toils and cares. We should give the returning prodigal, as well as the honorable and the noble, a place by our side. This is but a manifestation of Christian love. Only one *effectual* way can be found to produce this much desired end. Make the church *free*—that is, *rent no pews*. But the expenses must be paid. Where can we get the money? Let each one lay by him on the first day of the week as God has prospered him. Let each at the beginning of the year say how much of his income he can devote to carrying on the Lord's work. If he finds afterwards he can give more, let him do so.

If we have a pew, we pay for its use. If we place the same amount on the plate voluntarily, we are giving to God.

Shall we give or shall we pay? "God loveth a cheerful giver."

A partial endowment bringing in a fixed yearly income would be most advantageous.

"All souls are precious because all souls may be saints."

Parish Statistics,

(Since October 1st, 1883).

Baptisms—(Adults 6, Infants 25),			31
Confirmed,			18
Marriages,			3
Burials,			10
Present number of Communicants,			148
Services:			
On Sundays,		123	
On Holy days and other days,		69	
			192
The Holy Communion:			
In Church and Chapel,		23	
In private,		9	
			32
Sermons,			87
Addresses,			42
Sunday Schools,			2
Teachers,			12
Scholars,			159
Bible Classes,			4
Teachers,			4
Members,			72
Pew Rents (all sittings at the Chapel are free),			$1,197 50
Interest on investments and other sources,			424 69

COLLECTIONS IN TRINITY CHURCH.

Communion Offertory,	$246 25	
For Current Expenses,	410 45	
For Music,	322 95	
Repairing Rectory,	500 00	
Support of Sunday Schools,	160 43	
Cabinet Organ,	100 00	
Contributions for Sick Organist,	143 00	
For Furnishing Parish Building,	210 04	
		2,093 12
Total for parochial purposes,		$3,715 31
For outside objects:		
Episcopal and Convention Fund (2 years' assessment),	$100 00	
Episcopal Hospital, Nov. 30, 1882,	1,485 00	
Christmas Fund,	439 46	

MISSIONS:		
Diocesan,	$917 42	
City,	350 00	
Domestic,	1,000 00	
Bishop John A. Paddock (for boys' school),	110 00	
Indian,	100 00	
Colored People,	100 00	
Foreign,	500 00	
Mexican,	37 19	
For the Expenses of the General Convention of 1883,	118 46	
From Sunday School:		
For "Faith Home,"	25 20	
For Domestic Missions,	24 21	
A Box sent by the Missionary Sewing Society to the Church Home at Jonestown, Pa., valued at	200 00	
Total for outside objects,		5,506 94
Total contributed by Trinity Church,		$9,222 25

COLLECTIONS IN TRINITY CHAPEL.

For Current Expenses,	$305 03		
When Sunday School was present, and including Sunday School Offerings:			
For New Fence in front of Chapel	130 00		
For New Heater in Sunday School room,	36 52		
Total for local purposes,		$471 55	
For the support of an Indian girl at Santee Mission,	$30 00		
For Fannie C. Paddock Memorial Hospital, Washington Territory,	218 51		
A Box of Clothing (the work of the Women's Bible Class during Lent) sent to the "Sheltering Arms," Phila., valued at	75 00		
Total for outside objects,		323 51	
Total contributed by Trinity Chapel,			795 06
Sum total of all collections and contributions at Trinity Church and Chapel, from October 1, 1882, to November 1, 1883,			$10,017 31

Donations.

TRINITY CHURCH.

Two very handsome altar cloths have been presented during the past year.

On Thanksgiving Day a large quantity of vegetables and fruits were given. These were afterwards distributed to the sick and poor of the parish.

TRINITY CHAPEL.

A very handsome ante-pendium for the pulpit was presented; also some communion linen.

Important Dates.

TRINITY CHURCH.

PARISH organized about 1698 or 1700.

Admitted to union with Diocesan Convention in 1786.

Twenty-five by thirty-five feet of the present building erected in 1711.

Twenty-one feet added about 1786 or 1789.

Transepts added in 1833.

Tower for vestry room built in 1839.

Present tower with bell erected in 1875.

TRINITY CHAPEL.

SUNDAY SCHOOL organized in 1862 or 1863.

Corner stone laid May 7, 1870.

Consecrated November 20, 1870.

Recess chancel added in 1878.

PARISH BUILDING.

BUILT in 1882–1883.

Dedicated April 23, 1883.